

[Mr. S. Paramesvara Aiyar.]

under both the items together. The fall of about Rs. 9,000 under dry ginger is small and is explained by ordinary variations in the output of the article. The fall under copra and cocoanut oil is said to be due to the comparatively smaller yield of the cocoanut trees throughout the country this year and is noticeable in other important *chowkeys* also.

Smuggling through Arukutty.

26. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the smuggling of goods to Cochin through the Arukutty *chowkey* is decreasing year after year?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Excise Commissioner reports that there is hardly any smuggling through the Arukutty *chowkey*.

Motor boats in the Arukutty Circle.

27. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of motor boats attached to the Arukutty Circle at present;

(b) whether the purposes which the motor boats are intended to serve are being adequately served;

(c) whether those boats are being used daily at present;

(d) when the motor boats were purchased for the Arukutty Circle;

(e) what the price of each is; and

(f) the amount spent each year on account of the motor boats and the staff therefor?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):
(a) There are at present two motor boats, one attached to the Arukutty *chowkey* and the other to the preventive station at Nerekadavu.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The boats are being used daily for patrol work.

(d) One motor boat was purchased in Kumbham, 1096, and the other in Mithunam of that year.

(e) The price paid for each boat is Bh. Rs. 6,300.

(f) The expenditure on account of the boats and the staff attached thereto during 1096 and 1097 is shown below:—

Year.	Rs.
1096	317
1097	3,731